

easy reach of one of the largest metropolitan populations in the United States. It exists today as a living testament to those who never give up on their dreams—and to the tenacity of Dr. Edgar Wayburn in particular.

Most recently, in February, Dr. Wayburn joined us in supporting the introduction of legislation to permanently fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to expand efforts to conserve open space, provide urban recreation and park opportunities, and protect marine wildlife. The bill, the Permanent Protection of America's Resources 2000 Act, would be the single largest annual commitment of funds to environmental protection in our history. It is a bi-partisan, albeit challenging, effort and Dr. Wayburn's support for the legislation is invaluable.

And now, at last, shortly before his 93rd birthday, Dr. Wayburn will be standing in the White House to receive one of the highest honors that our country can bestow. It is a tribute that is long overdue but richly deserved.

Dr. Wayburn, we thank you and salute you on this momentous occasion.

H.R. 2708 "CYBERTIPLINE REPORTING ACT"

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, there is growing evidence that individuals are using the Internet to trade and collect child pornography.

In my district alone, police in Naperville, Illinois have made over forty Internet-related sex arrests in the past eighteen months.

Although current law requires Internet companies like America Online to directly report to law enforcement incidences involving child pornography, the law is unclear as to which law enforcement agencies should receive these reports.

This amounts to a scattershot approach to attacking the problem.

What is needed is a central clearinghouse to ensure that all reports are acted upon swiftly.

Fortunately, such a clearinghouse already exists—it's called the CyberTipline. Created by Congress, the CyberTipline gives citizens a single location to which they may report child pornography cases.

Launched in 1998, the Tipline has received over 10,000 tips from the general public, leading to dozens of arrests.

I believe the Internet community should fully utilize this important public service. To that end, I have introduced H.R. 2708, which allows America Online and others to use the CyberTipline when reporting incidents of child pornography.

This bill has the support of law enforcement agencies, as well as the leading Internet trade association.

Mr. Speaker, the best way to protect the positive, unfettered use of the Internet is to ensure that it doesn't become a sanctuary for those who prey on children.

Requiring the use of the CyberTipline is a step in that direction.

I urge my colleagues to join me in the fight against child sexual exploitation on the Internet and support H.R. 2708.

THE TAUNTON RIVER

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that would call for a 3-year study to determine if the Taunton River in Massachusetts could be added to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

The Taunton River is of great historic, scenic, and ecological importance, not only to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, but also to the Nation. From a historical perspective, the Taunton River, which was formerly called the Great River, was the first river the Pilgrims encountered as they moved inland in the early 1600's. The river, which was already many thousands of years old, was also used as a travelway for Native Americans, who made canoes by carving out large pine logs. Within a few short years of the colonization, the river became an indispensable tool and lifeline for the Pilgrims. The river also served as a meeting spot for the initial contacts between Native Americans and the early European settlers. These meetings were documented through an inscription on Dighton Rock by Miguel Cortereal in 1511.

Mr. Speaker, besides the historical value, the Taunton River is also a tremendous ecological resource. The quality of the water is improving tremendously. Seven freshwater mussel species were found in the river, which is a record for Massachusetts. Striped bass and other types of fish have returned to the river. And what I find most incredible of all are the numerous sightings of the American Bald Eagle. Clearly the return of the American Bald Eagle is a sure sign of the remarkable example of the improved fisheries and pristine stretches of the river system.

Not only is the quality of the river improving, but the surrounding area is, as well. Years ago, the river was the site for many manufacturing factories that provided jobs for the residents of southeastern Massachusetts. Like many industrialized cities in Massachusetts, Taunton suffered an economic downturn in the sixties and seventies. But as a result of a concerted effort by the local community, the once blighted area was revitalized. Old buildings and warehouses were torn down, new charming street lights were installed, the facades on old buildings were refurbished, and a new riverfront park was developed. The revitalization of the area is a true economic success story, and the Taunton River is the centerpiece of this revitalization effort.

The local community deserves recognition for their outstanding dedication and commitment to protecting and preserving the valuable ecological resources of the Taunton River. It is with great pleasure that I call for a study to assess the feasibility of making the Taunton River a National Wild and Scenic River.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VIRGIL H. GOODE, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. GOODE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, August 4, 1999, I mistakenly voted "aye" on

House Amendment 394 (Roll No. 372) offered by Mr. SCOTT to the fiscal year 2000 Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations bill. I intended to vote "nay" on that amendment.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 2721 TO ENHANCE IMMIGRATION LAW FAIRNESS

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced H.R. 2721, a bill to reduce the harsh consequences to legal aliens who have innocently voted and are now subject to being deported as a result.

Due to the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA), record numbers of aliens across America are being deported: Illegal entrants, visa overstays, and aliens who commit crimes, such as drug offenders and aggravated felons.

Swept into this dragnet are law-abiding, legal residents who made the mistake of believing they could vote, when they were not yet eligible.

IIRIRA makes legal aliens inadmissible and deportable if they violated any law, regulation or ordinance—at the federal, state, or local level on voter eligibility.

Worse yet, this three-year-old law applies retroactively. Aliens who voted decades ago—even once—are being deported today. In my district is an elderly woman who has proudly voted for 20 years because she had no idea she was not allowed to. While processing her naturalization, INS asked her if she had voted as part of its routine screening. She proudly said "yes," and she is being deported this week.

Even some immigrants who INS has tested and fingerprinted and are deemed to be qualified to become U.S. citizens are being kicked out, simply because they voted before taking the oath. Imagine their shock at being told that they are being deported along with traitors, drug dealers and violent offenders.

I do not condone violating voter eligibility rules. Violators should not escape sanctions entirely. But deportation for voting in good faith (although erroneously) is an overly harsh punishment that does not fit the offense.

My bill amends the IIRIRA of 1996 to reduce the harsh consequences to these legal aliens. It does not change any voter eligibility law. It does not reduce the sanctions that already apply to aliens who vote without permission. All my bill does is ensure that an alien who voted in good faith, without criminal intent, will not be forced to pay the ultimate price of deportation or inadmissibility.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation to restore a sense of compassionate justice to our immigration laws.

IN HONOR OF STONEWALK AND CIVILIANS KILLED IN WAR

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor those civilians who have lost their lives